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CONTACT:

Karen Larimore Wilkinson, PIO
Director of Public Information and Communications
City of Salisbury
217 S. Main Street
Salisbury, North Carolina 28144
Work Phone: 704-638-2113 Cell: 704-213-1050
Information: <http://www.salisburync.gov>
Work Email Contact: kwilk@salisburync.gov

Project SAFE Neighborhoods Intervention Team Presents Award to District Attorney William Kenerly

Kenerly Honored for Outstanding Service to Program Committed to Anti-Violence and Gun Crime Prevention

Salisbury, NC_December 6, 2010 – Members of the Project SAFE Neighborhoods (PSN) Salisbury-Rowan Community Intervention Team recognized District Attorney William “Bill” Kenerly during their recent December meeting at Salisbury City Hall. Mayor Susan Kluttz presented Kenerly with the Outstanding Service Award on behalf of the PSN team and thanked the District Attorney for his tireless efforts and dedicated support for Project SAFE. Kenerly, a charter member of PSN Salisbury-Rowan, has participated in the local anti-crime and gun-prevention program since its inception in 2002.

Mayor Susan Kluttz notes, “We are extremely grateful to District Attorney William “Bill” Kenerly and recognize him for the tremendous service he has provided to the citizens of Salisbury and Rowan County, not only as District Attorney, but also as a member of this team. Bill’s vast knowledge and expertise have proven invaluable to the success of Project SAFE over the last eight years. In addition to actively attending meetings, Bill has served on the PSN Executive Committee and provided leadership, insight, and dedicated service at all times. We applaud Bill’s outstanding service to the Salisbury-Rowan Community and thank him for his faithfulness and allegiance in providing a safer environment for all.” Mayor Kluttz explains that the PSN Intervention Team consists of volunteer members and is comprised of local citizens, community leaders, law enforcement officers, school system representatives, court personnel, non-profit leaders, and members of the faith community. Together, team members tackle issues related to illegal gun crime and violence.

Project Safe Neighborhoods is a nationwide commitment dedicated to reducing gun crime in America. The plan calls for a locally organized task force with federal backing to reduce gun violence by using federal, state, and local resources. As part of the project, violent convicted felons attend a community notification session, where they are informed that they could face federal charges for the crimes which they have committed. The structured gathering includes an opening segment by volunteer community representatives who offer assistance, compassion, and sincere concern for the welfare of their community and the future of those notified. Immediately following, law enforcement personnel and prosecutors promise stiff punishment for those who continue to commit violent acts. Project SAFE increases federal, state, and local law enforcement resources to vigorously prosecute repeat violent and group offenders who use guns in committing crimes. At the same time, it identifies the people involved in violent crimes in the past and through a community intervention team, makes them aware of resources

that are available to help them stay out of trouble. Salisbury held its first PSN notification meeting in November 2003.

In addition to notifications, PSN offers educational outreach sessions. Programs, designed specifically for kindergarten-age-children to adult, are implemented by team volunteers dedicated to preserving the safety of their community. In addition, PSN Family Day events provide opportunities for youth to become involved in affirmative activities as a deterrent to involvement in gang activity. For more information regarding Project Safe, please contact PSN Resource Coordinator Teresa Vinson at 704-638-2175.

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